

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments
Mental Health Emergency Room Extensions
(LAC 50:V.2711)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing repeals LAC 50:V.2711 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act. This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B)(1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amended the provisions governing disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments for mental health emergency room extensions (MHEREs) in order to change the deadline for hospitals that established a MHERE to sign an agreement to participate for reimbursement of uncompensated care costs for psychiatric services (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 36, Number 8).

As a result of a budgetary shortfall in state fiscal year 2015, the department determined that it was necessary to amend the provisions governing DSH payments to eliminate payments for

MHEREs (*Louisiana Register*, Volume 41, Number 3). This Emergency Rule is being promulgated in order to continue the provisions of the March 5, 2015 Emergency Rule. This action is being taken to avoid a budget deficit in the Medical Assistance Program.

Effective July 1, 2016, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing repeals the provisions governing disproportionate share hospital payments for mental health emergency room extensions.

TITLE 50
PUBLIC HEALTH-MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
Part V. Hospital Services
Subpart 3. Disproportionate Share Hospital Payments
Chapter 27. Qualifying Hospitals
§2711. Mental Health Emergency Room Extensions

Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254 and Title XIX of the Social Security Act.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 34:1628 (August 2008), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 36:1781 (August 2010), repealed LR 42:

Interested persons may submit written comments to Jen Steele, Bureau of Health Services Financing, P.O. Box 91030,

Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9030 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Steele is responsible for responding to all inquiries regarding this Emergency Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Rebekah E. Gee MD, MPH

Secretary